

# **THE CDBG-R SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT**

Jurisdiction(s): City of Chicopee, MA.	CDBG-R Contact Person: Tom Haberlin
Jurisdiction Web Address:	Address: 38 Center St
• <a href="http://www.chicopeema.gov">www.chicopeema.gov</a>	Telephone: 413-594-1490
	Fax: 413-594- 1495
	Email: <a href="mailto:thaberlin@chicopeema.gov">thaberlin@chicopeema.gov</a>

## **ENSURING RESPONSIBLE SPENDING OF RECOVERY ACT FUNDS**

Funding available under the Recovery Act has clear purposes – to stimulate the economy through measures that modernize the Nation’s infrastructure, improve energy efficiency, and expand educational opportunities and access to health care. HUD strongly urges grantees to use CDBG-R funds for hard development costs associated with infrastructure activities that provide basic services to residents or activities that promote energy efficiency and conservation through rehabilitation or retrofitting of existing buildings. While the full range of CDBG activities is available to grantees, the Department strongly suggests that grantees incorporate consideration of the public perception of the intent of the Recovery Act in identifying and selecting projects for CDBG-R funding.

### ***A. SPREADSHEET FOR REPORTING PROPOSED CDBG-R ACTIVITIES***

Grantees must provide information concerning CDBG-R assisted activities in an electronic spreadsheet provided by HUD. The information that must be reported in the spreadsheet includes activity name, activity description, CDBG-R dollar amount budgeted, eligibility category, national objective citation, additional Recovery Act funds for the activity received from other programs, and total activity budget. An electronic copy of the spreadsheet and the format is available on HUD’s recovery website at <http://www.hud.gov/recovery>.

***B. CDBG-R INFORMATION BY ACTIVITY (COMPLETE FOR EACH ACTIVITY)***

- (1) Activity Name: (Grantees should follow the same order that activities are listed in the Spreadsheet for Reporting Proposed CDBG-R Activities – this will allow HUD to easily match activity narratives with the information provided in the spreadsheet.)

Increasing Accessibility Project

Enhancing Livability Project

- (2) Activity Narrative:

In addition to the Spreadsheet for Reporting Proposed CDBG-R Activities, grantees must provide a narrative for each activity describing how the use of the grantee's CDBG-R funds will meet the requirements of Title XII of Division A and Section 1602 of ARRA. The grantee's narrative must also state how CDBG-R funds will be used in a manner that maximizes job creation and economic benefit in relation to the CDBG-R funds obligated, and will address the Recovery Act, by:

- Preserving and creating jobs and promoting economic recovery;
- Assisting those most impacted by the recession;
- Providing investment needed to increase economic efficiency;
- Investing in transportation, environmental protection, or other infrastructure that will provide long-term economic benefits;
- Minimizing or avoiding reductions in essential services; or
- Fostering energy independence.

The City proposes to utilize its CDBG-R funds to improve the livability of the Chicopee Center neighborhood. In the past year, the City has completed two significant assessments of the "Center". The first study focused on land use and the use of Smart Growth principals to create a vibrant, livable, workable neighborhood. The second study led by a group of community-stake holders focused on the identification and remediation of barriers to a healthy neighborhood.

CDBG-R funds will be utilized to address two barriers to a healthier neighborhood. Specifically,

"Increased Accessibility" will focus on removal of barriers –ADA compliance- on public sidewalks. The intention is to increase the "walkability" in keeping with Smart Growth principles. The existing residents and business will directly benefit from increased accessibility. A secondary anticipated outcome is to expand housing choices in the Center to include live/work options thereby utilizing the existing built environment. These benefits should include expanded economic opportunities.

"Enhanced Livability" will target measures to improve residence sense of safety and quality of life. This will predominately be accomplished through increased illumination and removal of visual barriers. Enhanced livability will additionally be achieved through infrastructure and natural element investments to support an attractive community and provide long-term economic benefits.

- (3) Jobs Created: (Report the number of full- and part-time jobs estimated to be created and retained by the activity (including permanent, construction, and temporary jobs)).

10 constructions jobs

2 permanent jobs

- (4) Additional Activity Information: (A description of how the activity will promote energy conservation, smart growth, green building technologies, or reduced pollution emissions, if applicable.)

The proposed projects are consistent with Smart Growth principles. Strengthen development in existing communities, encourage stakeholder participation and collaboration, and create walkable neighborhoods are basic Smart Growth principles achieved through this project.

- (5) Responsible Organization: (Contact information for the organization that will implement the CDBG-R activity, including its name, location, and administrator contact information)

Thomas J. Haberlin, Economic Development Director  
Office of Community Development  
38 Center St  
Chicopee, MA 01013

### ***C. PUBLIC COMMENT***

Provide a summary of public comments received to the proposed CDBG-R Substantial Amendment.

**Note:** A Proposed CDBG-R Substantial Amendment must be published via the usual methods and posted on the jurisdiction's website for no less than 7 calendar days for public comment.

Response:

No Public Comment has been received to date.